

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, that the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 123) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

S. RES. 123

Whereas the Members of the Senate were greatly saddened by the death of Loret Miller Ruppe, the longest-serving Director of the Peace Corps; and

Whereas Loret Miller Ruppe's inspirational vision, dedication, and leadership (1) revitalized the Peace Corps as she began or revived programs in Sir Lanka, Haiti, Burundi, Guinea-Bissau, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, and the Cape Verde Islands; (2) energized a new generation of Americans to accept the challenge of serving in the Corps; (3) refocused the Corps on its mission of development to achieve world peace; and (4) did a great service to America and to the millions of the world's citizens touched by her efforts: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That (a) the Senate recognizes and acknowledges the achievements and contributions of the longest-serving Director of the Peace Corps, Loret Miller Ruppe, and the volunteers she inspired, not only for their service in other countries but also in their own communities.

(b) It is the sense of the Senate that the President should honor the memory of the Peace Corps' great leader Loret Miller Ruppe and reaffirm the commitment of the United States to international peace and understanding.

Mr. LEVIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan is recognized.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on that subject, I didn't realize that such a resolution was coming forward this evening. But having heard the nature of the resolution, I commend my good friend from Vermont for forwarding this on behalf of the sponsors of the resolution. As it happened, by pure coincidence, today in the Foreign Relations Committee, I supported the nomination of David Hermelin, of Michigan, to be our Ambassador to Norway. I made reference to the fact that Mrs. Ruppe, also from Michigan, had served with tremendous distinction as our Ambassador to Norway, as well as she had served the Peace Corps as its director.

So it is quite a coincidence that this resolution is coming forward today with her name commemorated at the Foreign Relations Committee with great warmth. I wanted to just rise to give my strong support to this resolution. It is highly appropriate.

Mr. JEFFORDS. I appreciate the Senator saying that.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL INCORPORATED

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 200, Senate Concurrent Resolution 37.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 37) expressing the sense of the Congress that Little League Baseball Incorporated was established to support and develop Little League baseball worldwide and should be entitled to all of the benefits and privileges available to nongovernmental international organizations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, as follows:

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That (a) it is the sense of the Congress that Little League Baseball Incorporated is international in character and has engendered international goodwill through its worldwide activities, particularly among the youth of the world.

(b) The Congress reaffirms that Little League Baseball Incorporated was established to support and develop Little League baseball worldwide, through the chartering of local leagues and the provision of assistance to such local leagues, through the creation or location of facilities in other countries, and the provision of other support as appropriate, including financial support, without right of reimbursement or repayment.

(c) The Congress calls upon the parliamentary bodies and government officials of other nations, particularly those that participate in Little League baseball, to recognize and celebrate the international character of Little League baseball.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that committee substitute be agreed to, the resolution be agreed to, as amended, the preamble be agreed to, the title amendment be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements related to the resolution appear in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 37), as amended, with its preamble reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 37

Whereas Little League Baseball Incorporated is a nonprofit membership organization, chartered by the Congress of the United States in 1964 to promote, develop, supervise, and assist youth worldwide in participation in Little League baseball and to instill in youth the spirit and competitive will to win, values of team play, and healthful association with other youth under proper leadership;

Whereas Little League Baseball Incorporated has chartered more than 18,000 local Little League baseball or softball leagues in 85 countries, across 6 continents, through which more than 198,000 teams and 3,000,000

youth worldwide come together in healthy competition, learning the value of teamwork, individual responsibility, and respect for others;

Whereas Little League Baseball Incorporated provides administrative and other services, including financial assistance from time to time, to such leagues without any obligation to reimburse Little League Baseball Incorporated;

Whereas Little League Baseball Incorporated has established a United States foundation for the advancement and support of Little League baseball in the United States and around the world, and has also created in Poland through its representative, Dr. Creighton Hale, the Poland Little League Baseball Foundation for the construction of Little League baseball facilities and playing fields, in which youth may participate worldwide in international competitions, and is providing all the funds for such construction;

Whereas the efforts of Little League Baseball Incorporated are supported by millions of volunteers worldwide, as parents, league officials, managers, coaches, and auxiliary members and countless volunteer agencies, including sponsors, all of whom give their time and effort without remuneration, in service to others, to advance the goals of Little League Baseball Incorporated and thereby assist the economic transformation of societies worldwide, the improvement in the quality of life of all citizens and the promotion of a civil international community; and

Whereas, as demonstrated by the success of its efforts worldwide, Little League Baseball Incorporated is the largest nongovernmental international youth sports organization in the world and continues to grow: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That (a) it is the sense of the Congress that Little League Baseball Incorporated is international in character and has engendered international goodwill through its worldwide activities, particularly among the youth of the world.

(b) The Congress reaffirms that Little League Baseball Incorporated was established to support and develop Little League baseball worldwide, through the chartering of local leagues and the provision of assistance to such local leagues, through the creation or location of facilities in other countries, and the provision of other support as appropriate, including financial support, without right of reimbursement or repayment.

(c) The Congress calls upon the parliamentary bodies and government officials of other nations, particularly those that participate in Little League baseball, to recognize and celebrate the international character of Little League baseball.

The title was amended so as to read:

Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that Little League Baseball Incorporated was established to support and develop Little League baseball worldwide and that its international character and activities should be recognized.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND EDUCATION REFORM ACT OF 1997

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 154, Senate 1150.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows: